

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The claims in this listing will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (original) A method for judging inflammatory diseases which comprises detecting at least one gene polymorphism in the galectin-2 gene.
2. (currently amended) ~~The [[A]] method of claim 1 for judging inflammatory diseases~~ which comprises detecting at least one single nucleotide polymorphism in the galectin-2 gene.
3. (currently amended) ~~The [[A]] method of claim 2 for judging inflammatory diseases~~ which comprises detecting the C/T polymorphism at nucleotide 3279 in the nucleotide sequence of intron 1 of the galectin-2 gene as shown in SEQ ID NO: 1.
4. (currently amended) ~~The method of any of claims claim 1 to 3~~ wherein the inflammatory disease is myocardial infarction.
5. (currently amended) An oligonucleotide that can hybridize to a sequence consisting of at least 10 continuous nucleotides including the nucleotide 3279 in the nucleotide sequence of intron 1 of the galectin-2 gene as shown in SEQ ID NO: 1 or a

complementary sequence thereof, and that can be used as a probe in the method of ~~any of claims~~ claim 1 to 4.

6. (currently amended) An oligonucleotide that can amplify a sequence consisting of at least 10 continuous nucleotides including the nucleotide 3279 in the nucleotide sequence of intron 1 of the galectin-2 gene as shown in SEQ ID NO: 1 and/or a complementary sequence thereof and that can be used as a primer in the method of ~~any of claims~~ claim 1 to 4.

7. (original) The oligonucleotide of claim 6 wherein the primer is a forward and/or reverse primer.

8. (currently amended) A diagnostic kit for inflammatory diseases which comprises at least 1 oligonucleotide according to ~~any of claims~~ claim 5 to 7.

9. (original) The kit of claim 8 wherein the inflammatory disease is myocardial infarction.

10. (original) A method for analyzing the state of galectin-2 expression which comprises detecting the C/T polymorphism at nucleotide 3279 in the nucleotide sequence of intron 1 of the galectin-2 gene as shown in SEQ ID NO: 1.

11. (original) A method for screening for a therapeutic agent for inflammatory diseases which comprises steps of analyzing the expression level of the galectin-2 or galectin-1 genes in cells in the presence of a candidate substance and selecting a substance that alters such expression level.

12. (original) A method for screening for a therapeutic agent for inflammatory diseases which comprises steps of analyzing the expression level of the galectin-2 or galectin-1 genes in cells in the presence of a candidate substance and selecting a substance that increases such expression level.

13. (original) A method for screening for a therapeutic agent for inflammatory diseases which comprises steps of assaying the binding between lymphotoxin- α (LTA) and the gene product of galectin-2 or galectin-1 in the presence of a candidate substance and selecting a substance that inhibits such binding.

Attachments

- Sequence Listing, paper form
- Sequence Listing, computer readable form
- Statement to Support Filing of Sequence Listing